

North Phoenix



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NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation: \$9,950,096

Allocation includes population and discretionary allocations

Prioritized Needs	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Limited access to quality early care and education.	Strategy 1 – Quality First!	\$746,225	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to quality early care and education.	Strategy 2 – Child Care Health Consultant/Mental Health Consultant	\$1,740,000	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to quality early care and education	Strategy 3- WAGES	\$360,000	APPROVED 12/08
More training and professional development opportunities for early childhood care providers.	Strategy 4 - TEACH scholarships	\$483,020	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to parent education, information, and support.	Strategy 5 - Family/Friend/Neighbor Professional Development	\$250,000	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to parent education, information, and support.	Strategy 6 - Home Visiting (Family Support/Health)	\$1,050,000	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to parent education, information, and support.	Strategy 7 - Literacy Development	\$1,000,000 \$400,000 Regional Council moved \$600,000 to emergency scholarships	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to parent education, information, and support.	Strategy 8 – Families in Crisis	\$200,000	Recommended for Approval 8/24/09
Need for affordable early care and education.	Strategy 9 - Pilot/Study - Affordability	\$240,000 Regional Council redirected funding to emergency scholarships	APPROVED 12/08
Limited access to and utilization of preventive health care.	Strategy 10 - Preventative Dental Care	\$60,000	APPROVED 12/08

Limited access to and utilization of preventive health care	Strategy 11 - Health-E Applications	\$440,000	APPROVED 12/08
Limited understanding and information about the importance of early childhood development and health and limited support by the community around early childhood development and health efforts.	Strategy 12 - Communications Campaign	\$235,000	HOLD
Supporting families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response Plan: Emergency Scholarships	\$2,885,599	Approved 2/09
Supporting families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response Plan: Food Boxes	\$33,288	Approved 2/09
	Regional Needs & Assets	\$90,000	HOLD
	Subtotal of Expenditures	\$8,973,132	
	Fund Balance	\$976,964	
	Grand Total	\$9,950,096	



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TO: Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board
FROM: North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council
DATE: August 15, 2009
RE: Revised Funding Plan: Meeting the needs of "Families in Crisis" in the North Phoenix Region

Attached for your review and consideration is a revised Funding Plan strategy that was approved by the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council at their July 2009 meeting. In our original funding plan, based on a review of needs and assets available at that time, the North Phoenix Council stated as a priority need the need to provide for additional family support services – especially services to those families who were under stress. In response to this identified need, a strategy to further develop a community "Warm Line" for 24 hour utilization (in conjunction with the Central Phoenix region who had put forth a similar strategy) was presented for approval. As you will recall, the Board recommended that this strategy remain "on hold for further development" at the December Board meeting.

Since that time, the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council has completed its due diligence. A series of meetings have been held between staff and council representatives from both the North Phoenix and the Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Councils for the purposes of discussing the need and how we could work together to address it. The State Board made a grant award to support the "Birth To Five Helpline" provided by Southwest Human Development at the beginning of this calendar year. The CEO and program staff from Southwest Human Development have attended council meetings to outline their program and discuss any unmet funding needs. The North Phoenix Regional Coordinator has presented other strategy options for consideration, and the Council has completed a facilitated conversation to identify what they now see as a priority for the region. In culmination, while there remains families facing stress that need additional support services, the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council no longer believes that providing support to create/enhance/expand a "warm line," remains the appropriate response to meet this identified need in our region. They have instead determined that a family support strategy to better meet the immediate needs of families identified as "in crisis" or "at risk for crisis," is a priority.

This revised family support strategy includes a focus on expanding the capacity of programs that assist families that are in crisis, or at high risk of crisis. To implement this strategy, the North

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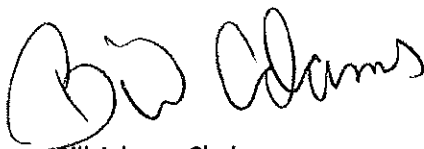
Phoenix Regional Partnership Council would seek proposals from existing organizations that serve at-risk families in the North Phoenix Region. Applicants would be expected to propose efforts aimed at strengthening families at-risk for abuse or neglect, but who have not been involved with Child Protective Services. This funding would not be intended to support additional home visitation services or mental health services that would be covered by the Regional Behavioral Health Authority.

It should also be noted that there is great potential for coordination and system building with this revised strategy. The Central Phoenix Strategy#11 was developed to address a similar need. A successful RFGA was recently released and multiple qualified applicants responded. Potentially, many of the respondents to the Central Phoenix RFGA may also be attracted to respond to the RFGA once released for the North Phoenix Region. The RFGA template utilized by the Central Phoenix Region will be updated and utilized for North Phoenix. Within the RFGA language, there will also be a request to explain how similar services between the two regions can/will be coordinated moving forward. It is anticipated that only one grant award would be recommended for the entire allocation.

This memo and supporting document provides the detail and justification for amending Strategy #8 in the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council from "Establish or enhance a telephone warm line to provide families access to parenting information and resources 24 hours per day" to "Expand the capacity of programs that assist families that are in crisis or at high risk of crises."

The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council feels that providing additional support to families with young children to avoid abuse and neglect, avert CPS involvement, and keep families intact is an important investment in the early childhood system in our region. They unanimously approved using \$200,000 toward this revised strategy. We would respectfully request an approval of this revised strategy to allow the staff and council to quickly move forward in publishing an RFGA.

Brenda Tomlin, Coordinator for the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, will be present at the August Board meeting to present further information on this strategy and answer any questions from Board members.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bill" and last name "Adams" clearly distinguishable.

Bill Adams, Chairperson
North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

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Strategy 8: Expand the capacity of programs that assist families that are in crisis or at high risk of crisis.

All children deserve to grow up in a safe environment. Unfortunately, many children in Arizona are at risk for abuse and neglect in our state. According to the Child Welfare League, Arizona ranks fifth nationally in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

Child abuse and neglect can result in both short-term and long-term negative outcomes for children. A wide variety of difficulties have been documented for victims of abuse and neglect, including mental health difficulties such as depression, aggression, and stress. Direct negative academic outcomes (such as low academic achievement; lower grades, lower test scores, learning difficulties, language deficits, poor schoolwork, and impaired verbal and motor skills) have also been documented. Furthermore, child abuse and neglect have a direct relationship to physical outcomes such as ill health, injuries, failure to thrive, and somatic (physical illness) complaints.

National data suggests that the incidence of child abuse and neglect is far greater for children under 5 than older children. In Arizona, over half (57 percent) of all reports of child maltreatment in the state were in Maricopa County. Of the 10,284 child maltreatment reports made in Maricopa County, 6,098 were reports of neglect, followed by 3,424 reports of physical abuse, 645 reports of sexual abuse, and 117 reports of emotional abuse. Over one-third of the children removed from a home because of maltreatment were under the age of six in Maricopa County.

Evidence suggests that child abuse and neglect also exist in the region. One zip code within the North Phoenix Region, 85027, is considered a "high removal area" within Maricopa County. In this area, slightly over one third of the removals were children aged 5 and under. Of the removals in the North Phoenix Region, nearly two thirds are classified as Caucasian, with the other one third classified as Hispanic.

Parents want to see their children grow up healthy and strong. Most parents do not want to harm their children. However, some parents have not learned sufficient skills to help them address the challenges of parenting. Moreover, life stressors such as poverty, job loss, drug/alcohol use by a family member, a child's disability or special health condition, and financial difficulties can bring families to the edge, where their decision making skills suffer.

The child welfare system exists to intervene in situations of abuse or neglect. However, that system is also facing numerous stressors. For example, the Arizona Department of Economic Security reports that there is a critical lack of foster homes available within several areas of the North Phoenix Region.

The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council believes it is important to provide additional family support to families with young children to avoid abuse and neglect, avert CPS involvement, and keep families intact.

To implement this strategy, the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council would seek proposals from existing organizations that serve at-risk families in the North Phoenix Region. Applicants would propose efforts aimed at strengthening families at-risk for abuse or neglect who have not been involved with Child Protective Services. Types of services or programs that could be funded include (but are not

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limited to):

- Respite or emergency shelter services for children
- Psycho-educational services, addressing issues such as behavioral difficulties, anger management, abuse and neglect, divorce/changing families, anxiety or depression
- Family support services aimed at strengthening skills that help families cope with stressors, such as managing a family's finances or finding a job

This funding is NOT intended to support the following:

- Mental Health services that would be covered by the Regional Behavioral Health Authority
- Home visitation services

Applicants would be required to demonstrate how they would:

- Target their services to families with children ages 0-5 who are most at-risk
- Build off of or expand existing service delivery
- Deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate and accessible services
- Deliver services or programs that reflect best or promising practices
- Coordinate their services (as appropriate) with other family preservation programs and publicly funded programs and services

Evidence from other states suggests that programs that provide support to families at-risk for abuse and neglect can be successful. For example, according to the National Resource Center for Permanency Planning at Hunter College, a family resource center in Alabama called Family Options has been successful in helping at-risk families avoid abuse and neglect. A very high percentage of families served by the program are still safely together up to one year after the intervention.

References for this section:

Augoustios, M. Developmental effects of child abuse: A number of recent findings. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 11, 15-27.
Community-Based Practice and Preservation. *Permanency Planning Today*, Spring/Summer 1999, National Resource Center for Permanency Planning, Hunter College.
Eckenrode, J., Laird, M., & Doris, J. *Maltreatment and social adjustment of school children*. Washington DC, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.
English, D. J. The extent and consequences of child maltreatment. *The Future of Children, Protecting Children from abuse and neglect*, 8, 39-53.; Lindsey, D. *The welfare of children*, New York, Oxford University Press, 2004.
National Research Council, *Understanding child abuse and neglect*. Washington DC: National Academy Press. Osofsky, J. D. The impact of violence on children. *The Future of Children*, 9, 33-49.
Arizona Department of Economic Security Child Welfare Report, 2008.

Lead Goal 11: FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.

Key Measures:

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- Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being.

Target Population

Families in crisis or at risk for crisis with young children (0-5) in North Phoenix

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010	SFY2011	SFY2012
	July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	150 – 700 families	150 – 700 families	150 – 700 families

Performance Measures SFYs 2010-2012

- Number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in the North Phoenix Region involving families with children ages 0-5
- Number of families receiving family support services/target

- How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:
This strategy would build on the services provided by existing organizations serving families at-risk for abuse and neglect in the North Phoenix Region and surrounding communities.

- What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:
Collaboration opportunities may exist with service provided under a similar strategy in the Central Phoenix Region, CPS, Prevent Child Abuse Arizona and Arizona Law Enforcement.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)

Allocation for proposed strategy	\$200,000
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Budget Justification:

Cost estimates made based on the assumption that total costs per family would range from \$200 - \$1,500 per family.

It is anticipated that only one grant award will be made for the entire allocation.